(d) to what extent existing defence procurement system has revamped?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) Government have set up a Defence Acquisition Council and a Defence procurement Board, chaired by the Raksha Mantri and Defence Secretary respectively, with senior level representation of all Departments and Service Headquarters of the Ministry. An arrangement for mandatory and time bound scrutiny of all major procurerhent cases, worked out in consultation with CVC and C&AG, is in place. The role of authorised Indian representatives/agents of foreign suppliers has been defined and a system of registration laid down. Government have also approved a fast track procedure for procurement of defence equipment which, in the opinion of the Chief of the concerned Service, is required to meet urgent operational needs. In addition, it is the Ministry's constant endeavour to simplify the acquisition process.

Liberalisation of F.S.I. Rules and Bye-laws for construction in Defence Cantonment areas

2240. SHRI NANDIYELLAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to liberalise F.S.I. rules and building construction Bye-laws in Defence Cantonment areas by amending the defence Cantonments Act; and

(b) whether Government also propose to make rules for regularisation of unauthorised building constructions in Defence Cantonment areas in pursuance of the amendments to be made in the Defence Cantonments Act?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The proposal to increase the Floor Space Index (FSI) in Cantonment areas by the Ministry has not received favourable response from the Army authorities, the Ministry of Environment & Forests and various Social Environmental Forums.

(b) No, Sir.